

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.142#
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

MEDICAL TOURISM

142# DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of foreigners are coming to India as tourists to avail medical treatment, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of the tourists coming to India for medical treatment during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the total amount sanctioned or released by Government for medical tourism during the said period and the amount utilized by the State Governments out of that chunk; and
- (d) additional steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (b): The details of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India coming for medical purpose during 2019 to 2021 are given below:

| Sr. No. | Year | Total FTAs in India (Figures in Lakh) | FTAs in India for medical Purpose (Figures in Lakh) |
|---------|------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. | 2019 | 109.3 | 6.97 |
| 2. | 2020 | 27.44 | 1.83 |
| 3. | 2021 | 15.27 | 3.23 |

Source: Bureau of Immigration

Further, State-wise Foreign Tourist Arrivals is not maintained by Ministry of Tourism.

(c) & (d): In order to boost Medical Tourism in the country, Ministry of Tourism has formulated a National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism. The Strategy has identified the following key pillars:

- (i) Develop a brand for India as a wellness destination
- (ii) Strengthen the ecosystem for medical and wellness tourism
- (iii) Enable digitalization by setting up Online Medical Value Travel (MVT) Portal
- (iv) Enhancement of accessibility for Medical Value Travel
- (v) Promoting Wellness Tourism
- (vi) Governance and Institutional Framework

Moreover, Ministry of Tourism sanctioned Rs.19,30,000/- to Industry Stakeholders for promotion of Medical Tourism in last three years.

The Government of India liberalized the e-Tourist Visa Scheme pursuant to the cabinet approval on 30.11.2016 and the e-Tourist Visa (eTV) scheme was renamed to e-Visa scheme and, at present, it has e-medical Visa and e-Medical Attendant Visa as sub-categories of e-visa.

In the case of e-Medical Visa and for e-medical Attendant Visa, triple entry is permitted and extension may be granted up to 6 months on case to case basis on merits of each case by the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO)/Foreigners Registration officer (FRO) concerned. Medical Attendant Visa was co-terminus with the validity of the principal e-visa holder.
